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PTO/SB/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE t of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number **Application Number** ETRANCUS 09/531,571 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date March 20, 2000 First Named Inventor **FORM** Williams et al. Art Unit 3624 **Examiner Name** J. Patel (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Attorney Docket Number 20009.0055US01 (BS99-191) Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC 1 Petition Amendment/Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a **Proprietary Information** After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify Terminal Disclaimer Extension of Time Request below): Return Postcard Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Landscape Table on CD Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

# SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name WITHERS & KEYS, LLC Signature Printed name JERAMIE J. KEYS Date October 18, 2004 Reg. No. 42,724

## I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: Signature Typed or printed name JERAMIE J. KEYS Date October 18, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

plicant:

Williams

Examiner:

Patel

Serial No.:

09/531,571

Group Art Unit:

Hame: Jeramie J. Keys

3624

Filed:

March 20, 2000

Docket No.:

20009.0055US01

(BS99-191)

Title:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR NOTIFYING AN ELECTRONIC

BILLING VENDOR OF A CUSTOMER STATUS

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** 

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, V 22313-1450 on October 18, 2004.

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

**Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed on July 16, 2004. Amendments to the claims begin on page 2. Remarks begin on page 5.